

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 755
By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to recognize the many contributions of Dr. James Theodore "Jimmy" Jackson of Dickson on the occasion of the observance of the bicentennial celebration of the founding of Dickson County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are particularly pleased to celebrate milestones in the histories of the counties of this state and to specially recognize the significant contributions of leading citizens of such counties and their communities to their growth and development; and

WHEREAS, one such progressive community is Dickson County, which has been celebrating its bicentennial, and one such outstanding citizen is the late Dr. James Theodore "Jimmy" Jackson, a Navy medical officer, a prominent physician, hospital founder and owner, philanthropist, and community activist; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Jackson was born in a log cabin in South Pittsburg, the youngest of seven children of the late Laurence and Margaret Dietzen Jackson; his father worked in an iron foundry and his mother was a homemaker; and

WHEREAS, following the lead of his brothers, Jimmy Jackson enrolled in the University of Tennessee School of Medicine in Memphis from which he graduated in 1942, and then served as a U.S. Navy doctor during World War II; and

WHEREAS, following his discharge from military service in 1945, Dr. Jimmy Jackson joined his older brother Dr. L.C. Jackson in practice at the clinic in Dickson along with brother Dr. William Jackson; working 18-hour days and seven-day weeks, the brothers grew the practice, expanding the clinic to 25 beds, a surgical suite, and an obstetrical unit; and

WHEREAS, by 1956 the brothers were ready to expand and purchased property from Mrs. Doye Myatt Goodrum and Mrs. Otis Larkins on Highway 70 East; they erected Goodlark

Hospital which opened on April 8, 1958, with 58 beds, surgery, labor and delivery, nursery, laboratory, and radiology services; and

WHEREAS, Goodlark Hospital thrived and expanded in 1962, 1967, 1976, 1985, 1987 and 1995; it was purchased by Columbia/HCA in 1995 and renamed Horizon Medical Center; brothers L.C. and William had both died in the 1980's and Dr. Jimmy remained as the last link to the early clinic, continuing to see patients every day until his retirement in 1997; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Dr. William Jackson and Dr. Jimmy Jackson, along with other physicians, formed the Jackson Clinic Professional Association that grew to become one of the largest independent practices in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in late 1987 the Goodlark Educational Foundation was created and the hospital contributed \$2 million annually to the foundation, half of which went to scholarships and half to school grants; after years of resisting takeovers by hospital conglomerates, Dr. Jimmy and the Board of Trustees embraced the idea that the best way to continue to improve healthcare was to become part of a larger corporation and the sale to Columbia/HCA was approved; and

WHEREAS, with the proceeds from the purchase of the non profit Goodlark Hospital by the for-profit HCA chain, a non profit foundation dedicated to the promotion of arts and technology education was established, directed by Dr. Jimmy Jackson, and called the Jackson Foundation; in 1996 the Foundation created the Eagle Squadron, a ground school at Dickson Municipal Airport - Pack Field in which instructors from Middle Tennessee State University's Aviation Department teach a flight curriculum to Dickson County High School. The foundation's Project Dream Mission, launched in 1998, provides a half-sized replica of a NASA space shuttle as a learning tool for 6th graders in math and science curricula; and

WHEREAS, in August 1999 the Jackson Foundation opened the Renaissance Center, a performing arts center for arts and technology education, which, in its first three years, hosted 100,000 students from across Tennessee to enjoy live theatre, science theatre, music workshops, art workshops, drama workshops, planetarium shows, and other features; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jimmy and Mary Ann Jackson were the proud parents of sons Dr. Bill Jackson, Dr. Roger Jackson, Dr. Bob Jackson and Senator Doug Jackson; and daughters Linda Walter, Sharon Long, Teresa Todd, Lisa Hawkins, Andrea Luplow, and Amy Smith; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jimmy Jackson was described by his son, Senator Doug Jackson, Executive Director of the Renaissance Center, as "...a man of great vision. He always believed that everyone should be afforded an education and his belief that the arts should be an integral part of that education is reflected in the Renaissance Center. The center was his dream for the community." For his dedication to promoting the arts in education, Dr. Jimmy Jackson was recognized with the 2001 Friend of Art Education award by the Tennessee Art Education Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jimmy Jackson's many outstanding contributions to the practice of medicine and service to his community are worthy of our deep appreciation and have clearly helped make the City of Dickson and Dickson County what they are today; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the citizens of Dickson County in celebrating their bicentennial and in specially honoring the stellar contributions of the late Dr. James Theodore "Jimmy" Jackson to the growth and prosperity of Dickson County and to the admirable quality of life enjoyed by its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to family members of Dr. Jimmy Jackson with this final clause omitted from such copy.